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RURAL DISTRICT OF MARKET HARBOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

- of the -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1954

R.W. Kind, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

VITAL STATISTICS

Area (In acres)	45,166
Number of inhabited houses (at 31st. March 1954)	3,221
Number of Council Houses occupied	539
Rateable Value 1st. April, 1954	£44,387
Sum represented by a penny rate	£174-13-5

POPULATION:

1954 Registrar General's estimate 10,050

TABLE showing the Registrar General's estimate of the population during the past ten years :-

1945	9,110	1950	9,660
1946	8,809	1951	9,915
1947	9,311	1952	9,970
1948	9,810	1953	10,010
1949	9,900	1954	10,050

BIRTHS:

			1953	1954
Live Births:	Legitimate	Male	72	79
		Female	73	66
		Total	145	145
	Illegitimate	Male	5	Nil
		Female	4	5
		Total	9	5
	Total Live Births:	Male	77	79
		Female	77	71
		Total	154	150
Stillbirths:	Legitimate	Male	Nil	2
		Female	1	2
		Total	1	4
	Illegitimate	Male	Nil	Nil
		Female	Nil	Nil
		Total	Nil	Nil
	Total Stillbirths:	Male	Nil	2
		Female	1	2
		Total	1	4

Birthrate per 1,000 estimate population:

Market Harborough Rural District	15.3	14.9
England and Wales	15.5	15.2

	1953	1954
Stillbirths rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	6.4	25.9

TABLE showing the variations in the total live births and in the birth rates during the past ten years :-

Year	Total Live Births	Birth Rates (per 1,000 population)		
		Mkt. Horboro' Rural Dist.	Leicester-shire	England and Wales
1945	134	15.4	18.8	16.1
1946	172	19.5	20.6	19.1
1947	193	20.1	21.2	20.5
1948	165	17.1	18.84	17.9
1949	188	18.9	17.35	16.7
1950	176	18.2	16.17	15.8
1951	160	16.1	16.02	15.5
1952	171	17.1	15.67	15.3
1953	154	15.3	15.43	15.5
1954	150	14.9	14.51	15.2

DEATHS:

		1953	1954
Total Number of Deaths:	Male - - - -	52	61
	Female - - - -	39	51
	Total - - - -	91	112
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population :			
	Market Harborough Rural District	9.0	11.1
	England and Wales	11.4	11.3

TABLE SHOWING variations in the total number of deaths and in the death rates during the past ten years :

Year	Total Deaths	Death Rates (per 1,000 population)		
		Mkt.Harboro' Rural Dist.	Leicester-shire	England and Wales
1945	134	15.4	11.1	11.4
1946	87	9.9	10.7	11.5
1947	113	12.1	11.3	12.0
1948	101	10.2	9.77	10.8
1949	116	11.7	10.68	11.7
1950	123	12.5	10.28	11.6
1951	110	11.0	10.74	12.5
1952	96	9.6	10.06	11.3
1953	91	9.0	10.05	11.4
1954	112	11.3	10.29	11.1

There were no deaths from puerperal causes.

			1953	1954
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:				
No. of deaths :	Legitimate - - -	Male	2	3
	- - -	Female	2	Nil
		Total	4	3
	Illegitimate - -	Male	1	Nil
	- -	Female	Nil	Nil
		Total	1	Nil
	Total Infant deaths - - -		5	3
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births :				
	Market Harborough Rural District- - - -		32.4	20.0
	England and Wales - - -		26.8	25.5

TABLE showing deaths of infants under one year and infant mortality rates during the past ten years :

Year	Total Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rates (per 1,000 live births)		
		Mkt.Harboro' Rural Dist,	Leicester-shire	England and Wales
1945	5	37.3	36	46
1946	3	17.4	36	43
1947	5	25.9	43	41
1948	1	6.0	32.2	34
1949	2	10.6	27.1	32
1950	4	22.7	27.0	29.8
1951	5	31.2	25.1	29.6
1952	1	5.8	26.5	27.6
1953	5	32.4	28.0	26.8
1954	3	20.0	28.1	25.5

			1953	1954
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :				
No. of Deaths	Legitimate - - -	Male	2	3
	- - -	Female	1	Nil
		Total	3	3
	Illegitimate - -	Male	1	Nil
		Female	Nil	Nil
		Total	1	Nil
	Total deaths under 4 weeks		4	3

Causes of Death.

Registrar General's Classisfication.	1954			1953		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory - -	3	-	3	2	1	3
2. Tuberculosis, other- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease - - -	-	-	-	1	-	1
4. Diphtheria - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Measles- - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases -	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm,stomach. -	2	1	3	-	2	2
11. Malignant neoplasm,lung, bronchus	-	-	-	1	-	1
12. Malignant neoplasm,breast - -	-	1	1	-	3	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus. -	-	-	-	-	-	-
14. Malignant neoplasms, lymphatic and other. - - - - -	8	1	9	4	5	9
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
16. Diabetes - - - -	1	-	1	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system - - - - -	8	8	16	8	2	10
18. Coronary disease, angina - -	7	8	15	7	4	11
19. Hypertension with heart disease -	2	1	3	3	-	3
20. Other heart disease - -	11	15	26	8	5	13
21. Other circulatory disease - -	-	3	3	1	1	2
22. Influenza - - - -	2	1	3	-	3	3
23. Pneumonia - - - -	3	-	3	3	2	5
24. Bronchitis - - - -	1	1	2	5	2	7
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system - - - - -	1	-	1	1	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum -	2	-	2	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis - -	-	2	2	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of the prostate -	2	-	2	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations - -	-	-	-	1	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases - - - -	7	6	13	5	8	13
33. Motor vehicle accidents - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
34. All other accidents - -	-	3	3	1	-	1
35. Suicide - - - -	1	-	1	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war -	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total deaths, all causes - -	61	51	112	52	39	91

CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

IMMUNIZATION :

Immunization facilities are provided free under the National Health Service Act. 121 children under the age of 5 years received their primary immunization during the year whilst 75 children received further treatment to maintain their immunity.

TUBERCULOSIS :

There were 3 deaths from this disease during the year under review.

New cases are summarized as follows :

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	8	14
Non-pulmonary ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	6	8	14

The total number of cases residing within the District at the close of the year was as follows :

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	23	37	60
Non-pulmonary ..	10	8	18
TOTALS	33	45	78

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The following cases of infectious disease were notified during the year :-

Measles	2
Whooping Cough	23
Scarlet fever	1
Pneumonia	8
Poliomyelitis	2
Typhoid fever	2

The cases of typhoid fever gave rise to an investigation of the community within which they occurred. 13 contacts were examined, 62 samples of faeces and urine being taken for this purpose.

A carrier was found and was admitted to hospital for treatment.

In the course of this investigation the water supply to the community was examined and found to be grossly polluted. 9 samples of water were taken from the deep well supply and the pollution found to be consistent over a period of six months. The community was advised of the steps which should be taken to render safe this water even though it had no bearing on the occurrence of typhoid fever.

The National Assistance Act, 1948 and National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951.

Application was made to the Courts under Sect. 47, of the above Act for orders to remove to hospital two elderly persons in need of proper care and attention.

The orders were granted and the persons were removed.

One, an elderly man, was fully recovered from his illness at the end of three weeks and returned to his home.

The other, an elderly woman, was subsequently removed to a Mental Hospital in which she remains.

Six other aged and infirm persons were persuaded to enter hospital voluntarily.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

For the following information I am indebted to Mr. R.W. Turner, Senior Sanitary Inspector, whose work during the year under review it represents.

Water Supply.

Main supplies have been satisfactory except at Saddington where insufficient pumping led to a shortage. Steps have been taken to remedy this.

Well supplies, being mostly from shallow wells, are usually polluted. Owing to the very wet season supplies have been adequate and for the first time since 1946 water was not carted on account of shortages.

2096 houses with a population of 6660 are served by internal mains water supply whilst a further 118 houses with 354 residents have access to mains water from stand pipes.

Sewage Disposal.

The East Langton scheme has been completed and with the exception of one property serves the whole village.

An enquiry was held during the year regarding proposals for Thorpe Langton and the works were agreed in principle.

There are in the District 2812 W.Cs. 157 privies and 48 pail closets.

Cesspools are emptied at approximately three month intervals.

Refuse Disposal.

House refuse is collected at fortnightly intervals by direct labour and disposed of by crude tipping at Foxton, Husband's Bosworth Hallaton and Kibworth.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area :

Total number of complaints received during the year - -	158
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered - - -	206

Total number of inspections made :

	Inspections
Animal keeping	Nil
Bakehouses	19
Dairies	266
Drainage works	1388
Dwelling-houses (all purposes)	1179
Food premises	309
Rodent control	1079
Refuse collection and disposal	161
Schools	10
Shops	70
Slaughter-house and meat inspection	173
Tents, vans, sheds, etc.	26
Verminous premises	4
Water supplies	1430
Workshops	88
Other inspections	153
Smoke observations	Nil
Total inspection	6355

Notices served during the year :

Preliminary	Housing	Public Health
Outstanding on January 1st. 1954	5	14
Issued during the year	44	52
Complied with during the year	44	66
Statutory action necessary	Nil	Nil
Outstanding on December 31st. 1954	5	Nil

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Treatment of sewers was carried out with the assistance of Ministy of Agriculture and Fisheries operators.

Tips were dealt with by our own workmen.

Smoke Abatement.

No action was necessary during the year.

Shops Act, 1950.

A comprehensive survey of shops handling food stuffs has been carried out. Defects discovered in 24 cases have been remedied by the service of informal notice.

Camping Sites.

4 camping sites exist and 8 licences were issued under Sect. 269, Public Health Act 1936 for moveable dwellings. 26 inspections were made and conditions are good.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

No premises are licensed under this Act.

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

No premises are registered under this Act.

Eradication of Vermin.

2 houses were found to require treatment to eradicate bed bugs. The infested properties were not owned by this Council.

Disinfestation was satisfactorily carried out in every case by stripping and treating with proprietary insecticides applied under pressure. The occupiers were advised of the steps necessary to prevent recurrences.

THE INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Ice Cream.

20 premises are registered for sale of ice cream. All ice-cream sold is of the prepacked variety.

Milk: Dairies and Distributors.

i) Dairies:

Number on Register	3
Number of inspections made	30
Number of contraventions found	Nil
Number of contraventions remedied	Nil

ii) Distributors:

Number on Register	6
Number of inspections made	39
Number of contraventions found	Nil
Number of contraventions remedied	Nil

Milk Sampling.

49 routine samples of bulked milk were taken for biological examination. In 1 of these infection by tubercle bacilli was detected and in a further 4 infection by Brucella abortus.

Stop notices were issued on all five occasions and a further 92 individual samples were taken.

Two stop notices were still in operation at the end of the year.

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Licences issued :	1 Dealers,	Pasteurised	3
		Sterilised	Nil
	2 Supplementary,	Pasteurised	2
		Sterilised	Nil

Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Licences issued :	1 Dealers, Tuberculin Tested	3
	2 Supplementary, Tuberculin Tested	1

Meat and other Foods.

4 private slaughter houses were licensed in Fleckney, Husbands Bosworth, Lubenham and Medbourne.

The 672 animals slaughtered therein were examined.

In 11 cases disease was discovered and appropriate action taken. In 1 case the disease was tuberculosis.

223 inspections of meat shops were made together with 259 inspections of other premises where other food is kept or prepared for sale.

HOUSING

1. New Houses.

Number of applications for council houses at the end of the year	436
Programme of new council houses :	
Erected during the year	64
Under construction at end of year	18
Number of houses erected during the year by private enterprise	17
Number of houses in course of construction at the end of the year by private enterprise	6
Total number of post-war houses completed by -	
a) Local Authority	368
b) Private Enterprise	60

2. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year.

a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	276
Number of inspections made for the purpose	720
b) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human inhabitation	10

3. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice.

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its officers	15

4. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

a) Under Sections 9, 10, 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

i) Notices served in respect of dwelling houses requiring repairs	Nil
ii) Dwelling houses rendered fit by owners	Nil

b) Under Public Health Acts.

i) Notices served in respect of dwelling houses requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
ii) Dwelling houses in which defects were remedied by the owners	Nil

5. Housing Act, 1936.

5 Houses were closed in pursuance of undertakings given under Sect. 11 of this act by the owners.

6. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

1 closing order was made under Sect. 10 of this Act.

7. Housing Act 1949.

10 Applications were received for reconditioning grants, 8 of which were approved.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c Line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of Inspections (4)	Number of Written Notices (5)	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted (6)	M/c line No. (7)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	15	41	-	-	1
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	55	117	-	-	2
(3) Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority + (excluding out-workers premises)	3	29	72	-	-	3
Total		99	230	-	-	

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (6)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Overcrowding (S.2)..	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	-	-	-	-	-	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	-	-	-	-	-	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
a) Insufficient	9	-	-	-	-	-	9
b) Unsuitable or defective	10	2	2	-	2	-	10
c) Not separate for sexes	11	-	-	-	-	-	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).....	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
Total.....	60	2	2	-	2	-	60

+ i.e. Electrical Stations (Section 103(1)), Institutions (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	M/c line No.	Section 110			Section 111			
		No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prose-cutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole-some prem-ises	Notice served	Prosecu-tions	M/c line No.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Wearing apparel Making etc.	13	82	-	-	-	-	-	13